

A NARRATIVE OF FACTS

Relative to Work Done for Christ
in connection with the

Woods' Christian Homes

For Orphan and Needy Children

Bowness Park, Calgary, Alta.

(Formerly of Olds)



"To Keep the Family Together"

REV. GEORGE WOOD

Superintendent

WOODS' CHRISTIAN HOMES

FOR FATHERLESS AND
MOTHERLESS CHILDREN

Bowness Park

— Calgary, Alta.

TRUSTEES

Rev. J. S. Shortt, M.A.	Miss E. E. Gordon
Rev. A. A. Lytle	Miss Helen White
Rev. George Wood	Mrs. Annie Wood

BANKERS

Canadian Bank of Commerce

AUDITOR

F. M. Rodgers, Innisfail, Alta.

SUPERINTENDENT

Rev. George Wood

MATRON

Mrs. Annie Wood

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All donations and cheques should be made payable to
Woods' Christian Homes, Bowness Park,
Calgary, Alberta



A Brief Narrative of Facts Since the Commencement of the Work in Innisfail

MR. WOOD having a few facts brought to his attention regarding the need of a Home for Fatherless and Motherless Children, owing perhaps to his past experience in connection with the Orphan Homes of Scotland at Bridge of Weir, where he had charge of one of the cottages for boys before he came out to the Mission fields in the West here, 19 years ago, saw that something should be done to keep the families together as far as possible instead of scattering them.

He also believed that the same Father who promised to be a Father to the Scotch boys and girls would also be a Father to our Canadian boys and girls, because "Faith is the substance of things hoped for", and the same "God is the rewarder of them that diligently seek Him."

He believed that the same Provider that so faithfully supplied all the need of men like George Mueller, William Quarrier and Dr. Barnardo, would be well able to supply the small needs of the children of Alberta.

In this faith he rented the largest house in the town of Innisfail, where he resided at the time, and started the Home with two little children whose mother had died that morning, and whose father, in uniform, was just starting overseas.

Within three months this house was too small to house those who wished to be admitted. After moving three times in Innisfail, the Home was moved to Olds to a large rented house, where the work was carried on by Mrs. Wood as "mother", Mr. Wood travelling through the Province telling the people the great need for such a Home, and asking their sympathy and support.

The most that could be accommodated was 28, and needy cases had to be turned away almost every week.

In the month of April, 1918, Mr. Wood secured 30 acres of land from the C. & E. Land Company within the limits of the town of Olds, and with the help of the children began the work of clearing and building the new Home, and planting a large garden of potatoes and vegetables. In the fall, one of the cottages was ready to move into, and bit by bit we added to our accommodation as we were able, through the kindness of the friends whose hearts the Lord had touched by our appeal.

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We continued during the war, and after the war conditions furnished many very needy cases, and we could raise very little money to provide improvements.

In the year 1921 a Financial Campaign Company offered to put on a campaign to raise a large sum and put the Home on a sound financial footing. This Company were already conducting campaigns for other institutions, and we at once communicated with those in authority to find out something of the Company. These enquiries were all answered very satisfactorily.



Rev. Geo. Wood

The financial depression and bad crops made it impossible for the Company to make a success of the appeal, and although a very considerable sum had been expended for printing, advertising and office supplies, they were forced to give up altogether.

When this campaign started Mr. Wood formed a Board of Trustees by inviting a number of Christian men and women who were interested, and at once signed over all the property to these Trustees to hold and operate as a Christian Home for Fatherless and Motherless Children.

The Home was duly incorporated, and a few more well known

men were called in to form an Advisory Board. Sir James Outram, Bart., was elected Chairman, Rev. J. S. Shortt, Secretary, and R. N. Ayleward, Manager of the Bank at Olds, was elected Treasurer.

With the failure of the campaign, the Board became lukewarm and somewhat discouraged, and Mr. and Mrs. Wood were left to carry on after the death of the Chairman, Sir James Outram, and the Treasurer, Mr. R. N. Ayleward. Both did notable work, and were a great help to the Home until they were called to higher service.

Although the obstacles and discouragements were many, yet Mr. and Mrs. Wood never faltered in the real work of caring for the motherless bairns, sometimes having as many as 50 to feed, clothe and educate.

In the fall of 1925 a special appeal was made throughout the Province, and while the large bulk of our help came from a very large number of small contributors, yet we feel special mention



Sun Parlor

should be made of the fine donations from Clubs, Societies and Aids. Special note must be made of the fine donation from the ladies of Parkland, in the form of complete furnishings for a dormitory, consisting of 12 beds, with blankets, quilts and wardrobes, costing over \$400.00, also providing clothing for a boy and girl for two years.

Following is a list of some of the larger contributions by Societies:

Provincial L.O.B.A's	\$512.15
Provincial L.O.L's, including Tag Day	704.18
Knights of Pythias	520.00
Ladies' Aids	284.50
Women's Institutes	396.30
Sunday Schools	346.61
U.F.W.A's	111.25

We are also grateful to the Sewing Circles, Ladies' Aids and C.G.I.T's that have contributed clothing of all kinds, as well as a large quantity of fruit and jam.

Last fall we heard about a very beautiful place at Bowness Park that was formerly used as a Sanitarium by the Seventh Day Adventist friends. After negotiations we secured this property for the very low sum of Eighteen Thousand Dollars (\$18,000.00), without interest. The main building cost \$65,000.00 to build in the year 1912, and is in perfect condition. We secured this on very easy monthly payments, and we hope the Lord, who no doubt prepared this for us in advance, will put it into the hearts of His people to give of their means to enable us to pay off during the present year.

When we brought the children into the new Home, one little



Main Hall

boy exclaimed, "Oh, it's a King's palace we've come to." All we ask is that you will come and see for yourself, and remember, we are always delighted to see you and show you everything.

We are at present forming a real live Advisory Board of business men, and will soon be able to publish their names and a full statement of our future plans.

At present we have 48 children in the Home, and the cost of keeping a child is 50c per day. We expect the friends of the children to do their utmost to help towards their support, and then, with the help of kind friends, we will do the rest.

All monies received have been deposited in the Bank of Commerce at Olds, and numbered receipts sent, the duplicates being kept for the Auditor. Monies are expended only by cheque, and records carefully kept and audited each year.

Our Home has been visited regularly by Government officials, and we are open every day to the public.

We are giving below a statement of Receipts and Expenditures for the year ending 1926, and in future we will publish a detailed statement of goods and clothing, as well as monies received.

Finally, we sincerely thank all who have helped in the past, and trust you will continue to help as the Lord has prospered you, remembering that the Master said: "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these, ye have done it unto me."

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

For the Year Ending December 31st, 1926

Receipts

Balance in Bank Dec. 31, 1925	\$ 237.53
Cash on Hand50
Received for Children's Support	5,943.09
Government Grant	1,250.00
Bank Loans	1,802.04
Donations	9,975.89
Insurance	575.75
	\$19,754.80

Expenditures

Groceries	\$ 905.85
Bread	484.87
Meat	211.20
Milk	543.85
Doctors, Drugs, School Supplies	541.57
Clothing	385.14
Laundry and Express	748.29
Telephone and Postage	173.52
Light and Fuel	514.44
Chattels and Stock	603.81
Salaries	3,037.55
Travelling Expenses	941.01
Advertising and Printing	104.25
Improvements	4,925.92
Bank Loans	3,958.40
Taxes, Insurance and Sundries	1,003.70
Balance on Hand	671.42
	\$19,754.80

AUDITOR'S REPORT

I hereby certify that I have audited the above accounts and have found same correct. The above statement is a true showing of the Receipts and Expenditures for the year ending 31st December, 1926. Vouchers and receipts have been produced for all monies received and expended.

(Signed) F. M. ROGERS,
Auditor.

WOODS' CHRISTIAN HOMES

FOR FATHERLESS AND
MOTHERLESS CHILDREN.

Bowness Park

— Calgary, Alta.



Alberta's Most Valuable
Products are the Boys
and Girls